



Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)



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The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 327, May 22, 2026

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section (updated as conditions warrant) and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

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425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

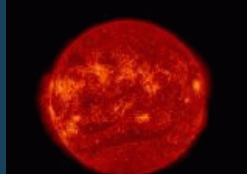
Dr. Tony Phillips' [SpaceWeather.com](#), used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



Solar-Terrestrial Data

23 May 2026 1709 GMT
SFI: 124 SN: 74
A-Index: 6
K-Index: 0
X-Ray: C1.6
304A: 122.4 @ SEM
Ptn Flx: 12
Elc Flx: 1900
Aurora: 1/n=1.99
Mag (Bz): 1.3
Solar Wind: 328.1
Geomag Field INACTIVE
Sig Noise Lvl S0-S1
Current Solar Image



<http://www.nonbh.com>
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DX News

3A, MONACO. Operated on 40-10 meters SSB by IU3EDK and IZ3KUZ, look for **3A/ IU3EDK** to be QRV from a couple of POTA sites (MC-0002 and MC-0003) in Monaco on **May 25th**. QSL via [IU3EDK](#) and eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1829 May 23, 2026] (0522-0529)

3B9, RODRIGUES I. Ivan, UR9IDX, plans to be QRV as **3B9IDX** from **May 18th to June 1st** on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via [3B9IDX](#) direct only.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 19 May 14, 2026] (0515-0605)

5X, UGANDA. Alan, G3XAQ, is currently on the air as **5X1XA** on CW and FT8. Also watch for him during the CQ WPX CW Contest (**May 30th-31st**). The length of his stay is not known so far. QSL direct via [G3SWH](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2511 May 20, 2026] (0522-0612)

5Z, KENYA. Massimo, IZØEGB, has returned to Nairobi and uses the callsign **5Z4AB** on 20-10m (SSB). The duration of his stay is not known at present. QSL via [IZØEGA](#).

-[DXNL # 2509 May 6, 2026] (0508-0529)

5Z, KENYA. Paul, MMØZBH is currently active as **5Z4/MMØZBH** from Kenya **until June 15th**. He operates CW, SSB and FT8 and is QRV holiday style while volunteering at a local school. QSL via LoTW and [MØOXO's QQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1825 April 25, 2026] (0424-0619)

8Q, MALDIVES. Yosuke, JJ1DQR will be active holiday style as **8Q7QR** from the Maldives (AS-013) from **May 28th to June 1st**, including part-time participation in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 30th-31st). QSL via [JJ1DQR](#).

-[425DXN # 1829 May 23, 2026] (0522-0605)

9M2, WEST MALAYSIA. Team **9M26ISX** will be active from Batu Pahat (Johor), West Malaysia on **May 22nd-24th** during the International STEM X-Plorace. The event "brings together STEM exploration, innovation, teamwork and outdoor challenges". This year, ISX26 "is introducing participants to radio communication, callsign procedures, and the role of communication technology in STEM learning". QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog.

-[425DXN # 1827 May 9, 2026] (0522-0529)

9M8, EAST MALAYSIA. 12 ops are going to put Talang-Talang Besar island (OC-165) on the air **during May** with the callsign **9M8T**. See also: <https://cqdx.my/9m8t>. QSL via [9W8ZZK](#).

-[DXNL # 2509 May 6, 2026] (0508-0529)

A3, TONGA. Oliver, W6NV will be active as **A31WW** from Nuku'alofa on Tongatapu Island (OC-049), Tonga from **May 23rd to June 2nd**. He will operate CW on the HF bands, with main activity during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 30th-31st). QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1829 May 23, 2026] (0522-0605)

A3, TONGA. Bob, ZL1RS will be active as **A35RS** from Tongatapu (OC-049), Tonga on **May 14th-26th**. This will be a 6m EME DXpedition, using Q65-60A in the "Q65 Pileup" mode. During non-EME times he will be monitoring 50313 kHz on FT8; depending on available luggage space and weight, limited 10m band FT8 operation may also be included. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/A35RS> for more information. QSL via [ClubLog's QQRS](#), or direct to [ZL1RS](#).

-[425DXN # 1827 May 9, 2026] (0508-0529)

A6, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. The Emirates Amateur Radio Society participates in the "Proud of UAE" campaign, the nationwide initiative celebrating the country's progress and identity. Look for **A6ØPE** (individual operators may append a serial number to the special callsign: **A6ØPE/Ø**, **A6ØPE/1**, etc.) to be used **through May 31st**. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/A60PE> for the QSL routes.

-[425DXN # 1825 April 25, 2026] (0424-0529)

C9 MOZAMBIQUE. Bill, ZS6ACY, has returned to the bands as **C91CCY** and can be found on 80, 40 (4 element monobander), 20m during his morning hours (0400-0500 UTC). QSL via [N2OO](#).

-[DXNL # 2511 May 20, 2026] (0522-0612)

CEØZ, JUAN FERNANDEZ. Felipe, XQ7IR, expects to be active as **3GØZ** from Robinson Crusoe Island (SA-005), Juan Fernandez **starting on May 19th** at approximately 2100 UTC. The operation is expected to last roughly 20 days. Initial activity will most likely begin on 40, 80, and 160 meters while he continues to progressively install the rest of the antennas. He will also install a remote station that will be operated by "a group of very well-known and experienced operators led by Renner, PY7RP". Regarding the side trip to Alejandro Selkirk Island (SA-101), "the plan continues to move forward and take solid shape. Work is currently underway to secure a location far from the populated area and at a very good elevation". The callsign for the SA-101 operation will be **XRØZ**. See

<https://www.robinsoncrusoe2026.net> for more information. QSL via [MØURX's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1827 May 9, 2026] (0515-0605)

CN, MOROCCO. Pascal, F8NQV will be active as **CN2NQV** from Sidi Rahal Chatai, Morocco from **April 25th to July 11th**. Look for him on or around 7155, 14345, 18140, 21165 and 28575 kHz.

-[425DXN # 1825 April 25, 2026] (0424-0710)

CP, BOLIVIA. LU1FM, LU1HF, LU2JCW, LU3FR, LU3VED, LU6FOV, LU7HN, LU8VCC, and LU9FHF will be active as **CP7DX** from Tarija, Bolivia from **May 26th to June 6th**, including an entry in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 30th-31st). They will operate SSB, CW and FT8 on 160-6 meters, as well as via EME on 144 and 432 MHz. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), or direct to [LU1FM](#).

-[425DXN # 1827 May 9, 2026] (0522-0605)

DU, PHILIPPINES. Peter, VK4CCV, has moved to Pacijan Island (OC-129) and operates as **DU7/VK4CCV** on various HF bands on SSB and digital modes.

-[DXNL # 2509 May 6, 2026] (0508-0529)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of May 21, 2026:

1. P5	DPRK (North Korea)	11. VKØM	Macquarie Island
2. KH3	Johnston Island	12. EZ	Turkmenistan
3. KH7K	Kure Island	13. PYØS	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
4. CEØX	San Felix Islands	14. VPØS	South Sandwich Islands
5. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	15. YK	Syria
6. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	16. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
7. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	17. FT/T	Tromelin Island
8. YVØ	Aves Island	18. VKØH	Heard Island
9. BV9P	Pratas Island	19. KH1	Baker Howland Islands
10. KH4	Midway Island	20. FK/C	Chesterfield Islands

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[KØCF May 22, 2026] (0522-0612)

EA, SPAIN. Special callsign **EH1ØØAG** is for members of URE Baix Camp, URE Tarragones and Radio Club EA3RCY to commemorate the centenary of the passing of Antoni Gaudi, the famous Catalan architect and designer whose main and widely known work is the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona. Look for activity to take place from **May 11th until June 7th** on various bands and modes, and on QO-100. QSOs will be uploaded to eQSL, LoTW and ClubLog. QSL via the bureau.

-[425DXN # 1828 May 16, 2026] (0515-0612)

EI, IRELAND. M1PTR and M5KJM (EI6KP) will be active as **EJ6KP/p** from **May 21st to 23rd**. QRV on 40, 20, 15m (SSB). QSL via [M5KJM](#), OQRS, LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2511 May 20, 2026] (0522-0529)

F, FRANCE. On March 27, 1899, Guglielmo Marconi achieved the first international wireless transmission, sending Morse code signals between Wimereux (near Boulogne-sur-Mer), France, and the South Foreland Lighthouse in Dover, England. Commemorating this milestone in the history of telecommunications, the special event station **TM8DW** will be active from Wimereux **on April 25th** during the International Marconi Day, and **sporadically until June**. In addition, **GB2DOVER**, **GB2SFL** and **GB8DW** will be operated by the Dover Amateur Radio Club on the British side of the Channel. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1824 April 18, 2026] (0417-0529)

F, FRANCE. Special callsign **TM1Ø1WARD** by the Réseau des Emetteurs Francais (REF) celebrates World Amateur Radio Day from **April 14th to 20th**. WARD is observed annually on April 18th, the day when the IARU was formed in Paris 101 years ago.

-[425DXN # 1823 April 11, 2026] (0410-0524)

FK, NEW CALEDONIA. Herve, F4MER will be active as **FK/F4MER** **until the beginning of August** during his spare time with 100W and a multi band antenna.

-[DXNL # 2509 May 6, 2026] (0508-0605)

FM, MARTINIQUE. Darrell, AB2E, will be active as **TO3E** from Martinique (NA-107) from **May 26th to June 2nd**. Main activity will be during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 30th-31st). Outside the contest, he will operate CW, RTTY, and FT8 with a focus on the low and WARC bands. QSL via LoTW or [AB2E](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 20 May 21, 2026] (0522-0605)

FO, FRENCH POLYNESIA. Didier, F6BCW, plans to return as **FO/F6BCW** from **May 5th until July 20th** from Tikehau (OC-066), this time with an amplifier and improved antennas. QRV with 100W on 20-10m (CW, SSB). QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2508 April 29, 2026] (0501-0717)

FY, FRENCH GUIANA. Ronan, F4LJA, is QRV as **FY/F4LJA** **until June 5th**. Activity is on HF bands primarily using FT8.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 7, 2026] (0508-0605)

HBØ, LIECHTENSTEIN. Kasimir, DL2SBY will be active again as **HBØ/DL2SBY** from Liechtenstein on **May 25th-31st**. He will operate CW, SSB and FT8 (MSHV) on the HF bands with verticals and an inverted vee, and on 6 meters with a 5-element Yagi. QSL via LoTW, [ClubLog's OQRS](#), or direct to [DL2SBY](#).

-[425DXN # 1829 May 23, 2026] (0522-0605)

HC8, GALAPAGOS IS. Edgar, K2IN, has been remotely testing his **HC8M** station since May 14th. He will be on the island from **May 28th until June 2nd**. He plans to operate high-power in the CQ WPX CW Contest (May 30th-31st). QSL via [MØOXO's OQRS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 20 May 21, 2026] (0522-0605)

I, ITALY. The United Nations Global Service Centre ARC (4U1GSC) in Brindisi is active as **4U29MAY** **until May 31st**. The special callsign honors the International Day of UN Peacekeepers (May 29th). DXCC-wise, it counts for Italy. QSL via [9A2AA](#).

-[425DXN # 1829 May 23, 2026] (0522-0605)

I, ITALY. The ARI section Fidenza uses the following special event callsigns to honor Marconi during 2026: **II4ROSA** (May), **II4PRCE** (June), **II4JAFL** (July), **II4KEMP** (August), **II4PAGE** (September), **II4NTTI** (October), **II4GCLB** (November), **II4SLRI** (December).

-[DXNL # 2511 May 20, 2026] (0522-0612)

JA, JAPAN. Special callsign **8J7ØJARE** celebrates the 70th anniversary of the Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition, which on January 29, 1957, established Syowa Station on East Ongul Island. The special callsign will be in use from various locations across Japan from **May 22nd to January 29th, 2027**. QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau; direct cards via [JG2MLI](#).

-[425DXN # 1825 April 25, 2026] (0522-0619)

JA, JAPAN. Take, JI3DST and Ken, JA4GXS expected to be active from the Danjo Islands (AS-056) on May 22nd-23rd, but anticipated severe weather has forced their charter vessel to **cancel the trip**. Consequently, the entire operation has been called off. With Japan now entering the rainy season, rescheduling anytime soon is extremely difficult, so they are now aiming for May of next year.

-[425DXN # 1829 May 23, 2026] (0522-0612)

JW, SVALBARD. Christian, KBØATY, signs **JW/KBØATY/mm** and **JW/W8UM/mm** (University of Michigan club station) from aboard a sailing yacht around the coast of Spitzbergen (EU-026) **until May 29th**. For the vessel's actual position see.

<https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/home/shipid:738602/zoom:10>. He also plans to activate POTA and SOTA references on the island as **JW/KBØATY** and **JW/W8UM**.

-[DXNL # 2511 May 20, 2026] (0522-0529)

JY, JORDAN. Celebrating the 80th anniversary of Jordan's independence, special event callsign **JY8ØID** will be active on various bands and modes on **May 23rd-25th**. QSL via QRZ.com.

-[425DXN # 1829 May 23, 2026] (0522-0529)

LY, LITHUANIA. Special callsign **LY1ØØRADIO** celebrates the 100th anniversary since the official beginning of regular radio broadcasting service in Lithuania (June 12, 1926). Look for activity from **May 12th to July 12th**; see <https://www.qrz.com/db/LY100RADIO> for the awards. QSL via **LY2QT**.
-[425DXN # 1828 May 16, 2026] (0515-0612)

LZ, BULGARIA. The radio club LZ1KCP (Blagovestnik) continues to commemorate Orthodox saints with the callsigns: **LZ37ØTL** (May-June), **LZ67PP** (July-August), **LZ936BA** (September-October), **LZ911TD** (November-December). Additionally, **LZ75HSC** celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Radio Telegraphy High Speed Club (HSC) during 2026. QSL all via **LZ2JE**.
-[DXNL # 2511 May 20, 2026] (0522-0612)

LZ, BULGARIA. The foundations of Bulgaria's organized amateur radio movement were laid in 1926, when 38 enthusiasts established the Bulgarian Radio Club - a predecessor to today's Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs (BFRA). Celebrating this centenary, members of the BFRA will be active as **LZ1ØØLZ** on 160-10 meters CW, SSB and digital modes from **May 1st to 31st**. See <https://lzprint.eu/lz100lz-award/> for the certificates.
-[425DXN # 1826 May 2, 2026] (0501-0529)

ON, BELGIUM. Special callsign **OT26EPIC** by the Antwerp Port Contest Club (ON8APC) promotes this year's edition of the Antwerp Port Epic cycling race. Look for activity from **April 25th to May 25th** (the actual day of the race). QSL via **ON8JJ**.
-[425DXN # 1824 April 18, 2026] (0424-0529)

PJ4, BONAIRE. Chris, WA7RAR will be active again as **PJ4CB** from Bonaire (SA-006) from **May 27th to June 8th**. He will operate SSB and CW on 20-10 meters, often from POTA sites. QSL via LoTW, QRZ Logbook, or direct to **WA7RAR**.
-[425DXN # 1827 May 9, 2026] (0522-0612)

SØ, WESTERN SAHARA. Naama, SØ1A, and Azman, SØ1AH, are QRV as **SØ9S** until the end of **May** to mark the 50th anniversary of Western Sahara. QSL via [ClubLog's QORS](#) or LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 13 April 2, 2026] (0403-0529)

SP, POLAND. Members of the Radioklub Stargard (SP1KCJ) will be QRV as **SPØHANZA** on **May 23rd** and again for the 46th International Hanseatic Day to be hosted by their city on **June 11th-14th**. A certificate will be available: <https://radiodyplom.pl/ses/257>. QSL via the bureau.
-[425DXN # 1829 May 23, 2026] (0522-0619)

SP, POLAND. the radio club Dobrzycki (SP3PDO) draws attention to Polish saints during 2026: **SP192ØKW** (May), **SP1373JA** (June), **SP1183JO** (July), **SP19Ø5MFK** (August), **SP1373AB** (September), **SP155ØSK** (October), **SP1234KK** (November) und **SP1835JK** (December). QSL via **SP3PDO**.
-[DXNL # 2511 May 20, 2026] (0522-0612)

SV, GREECE. Mike, DF8AN, signs **SV8/DF8AN** until **May 26th** from Skopelos (EU-072). QRV on 80-10m, mostly on CW and FT8, and via the SO-50 satellite. QSL via **DF8AN**, LoTW.
-[DXNL # 2511 May 20, 2026] (0522-0529)

SV, GREECE. Celebrating "243 Years of Human Flight", the special callsign **SX1FLY** honors the Montgolfier brothers, who achieved the world's first free, manned hot air balloon flight in 1783. Look for activity on all bands and modes from **May 1st to May 31st**. A certificate will be available; details on <https://www.qrz.com/db/SX1FLY>. Paper QSLs will not be provided, but QSOs will be uploaded to eQSL, LoTW and other electronic resources.
-[425DXN # 1827 May 9, 2026] (0508-0529)

SV, GREECE. Members of the Radio Amateur Association of Western Greece are QRV with special callsign **SZ4ØA** until **May 31st** to celebrate forty years of continuous presence, service, and contribution to amateur radio. Activity is on various HF bands and modes. QSL via **ON3UN**.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 12 March 26, 2026] (0327-0529)

T8, PALAU. Nobu, JAØJHQ will be active again as **T88PB** from Koror (OC-009), Palau on **May 27th-31st**, with main activity during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 30th-31st). QSL via LoTW (preferred) or direct to [JAØJHQ](#).

-[425DXN # 1829 May 23, 2026] (0522-0605)

T8, PALAU. Ops JF3PLF, JR3QFB, and JA1MFR will be active from Koror (OC-009) as **T88IL**, **T88JH**, and **T88KY** respectively. QRV from **May 21st to 24th** on 160-6m (CW, digital modes). QSL T88IL via [JF3PLF](#) or LoTW; T88JH via [JR3QFB](#) or LoTW; T88KY via LoTW only.

-[DXNL # 2511 May 20, 2026] (0522-0529)

TL, CENTRAL AFRICA. Joao, CR7BNW, is active as **TL8BNW** until **June**. Activity is on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB and FT8. For QSL info, see [TL8BNW](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 14 April 9, 2026] (0410-0529)

UA, EUROPEAN RUSSIA. Back in 2001, the Arctic High-Latitude Radio Expedition to "The Lost Islands" activated six IOTA groups, including a new one (AS-156) and three rare ones. To mark the 25th anniversary of that memorable DXpedition, three special callsigns will be active on **May 21st-31st**: **RA25LI** (Novosibirsk), **RN25LI** (Norilsk), and **RD25LI** (Dikson Island). This operating event is organized by the Russian Robinson Club: <https://robinsons.ru/lost-islands-2026/> (in Russian). QSL via [RZ3EC](#).

-[425DXN # 1829 May 23, 2026] (0522-0605)

UA, EUROPEAN RUSSIA. Commemorating the 121st anniversary since the birth of Mikhail A. Sholokhov (1965 Nobel Prize laureate in Literature), special callsigns **R121MS** and **UE41MS** will be active on **May 18th-24th** during the 41st edition of the Sholokhov Spring Festival. A certificate will be available on <https://hamlog.online/club/mdxc>. QSL via [RQ7L](#).

-[425DXN # 1828 May 16, 2026] (0515-0529)

V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS. Markus, WW6W, will be QRV holiday style as **V4/WW6W** from St. Kitts (NA-104) from **May 24th to June 1st**. He will operate mainly CW and FT8 on 80 to 10 meters. He also plans to participate in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 30th-31st), possibly using a special contest callsign. QSL via [WW6W](#), LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 20 May 21, 2026] (0522-0605)

V5, NAMIBIA. Eric, N7XOB, is QRV as **V5/N7XOB** while visiting Namibia until **June 19th**. He will operate SSB on or near 7165 and 14265 kHz from various locations. QSL via [N7XOB](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 20 May 21, 2026] (0522-0619)

VE, CANADA. Kris, KM2KM, plans to be QRV as **KM2KM/VYØ** on Baffin Island (NA-047) from the station in Iqaluit (courtesy of VYØIG and VE3PCP) from **May 26th to June 3rd**. He expects to operate CW at 13 WPM on 20, 17, and 15 meters, running from 6 to 8 AM and 7 to 9 PM local time (EDT). QSL via [KM2KM](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 20 May 21, 2026] (0522-0605)

VK9C, COCOS (KEELING) IS. Mark, VK6BSA, and Deena, VK6DEE, are QRV as **VK9BSA** and **VK9DEE** during free time until **late May**. Activity is on most bands using an FTDX-10. QSL direct with \$5.00 US International Money Order or PayPal to [VK6BSA](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 7, 2026] (0508-0529)

VP8/H,LU, SOUTH SHETLAND IS. Rafal, SQ4O is a member of the 50th Polish Antarctic Expedition to the Henryk Arctowski Station on King George Island, South Shetland Islands (AN-010). He will be working there from **May to October**, and in his spare time he will be QRV as **HFØPAS** on the HF bands (SSB and CW) and 6 meters (FT8). QSL route TBA.

-[425DXN # 1825 April 25, 2026] (0501-0529)

VU, INDIA. To mark the 90th anniversary of Akashvani, Manmohan, VU3YBH, will operate special event station **AT9ØVANI** from Bhopal from **May 25th to August 16th**. Operation will be on 20, 15, 12, and 10 meters using SSB and FT8.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 20 May 21, 2026] (0522-0626)

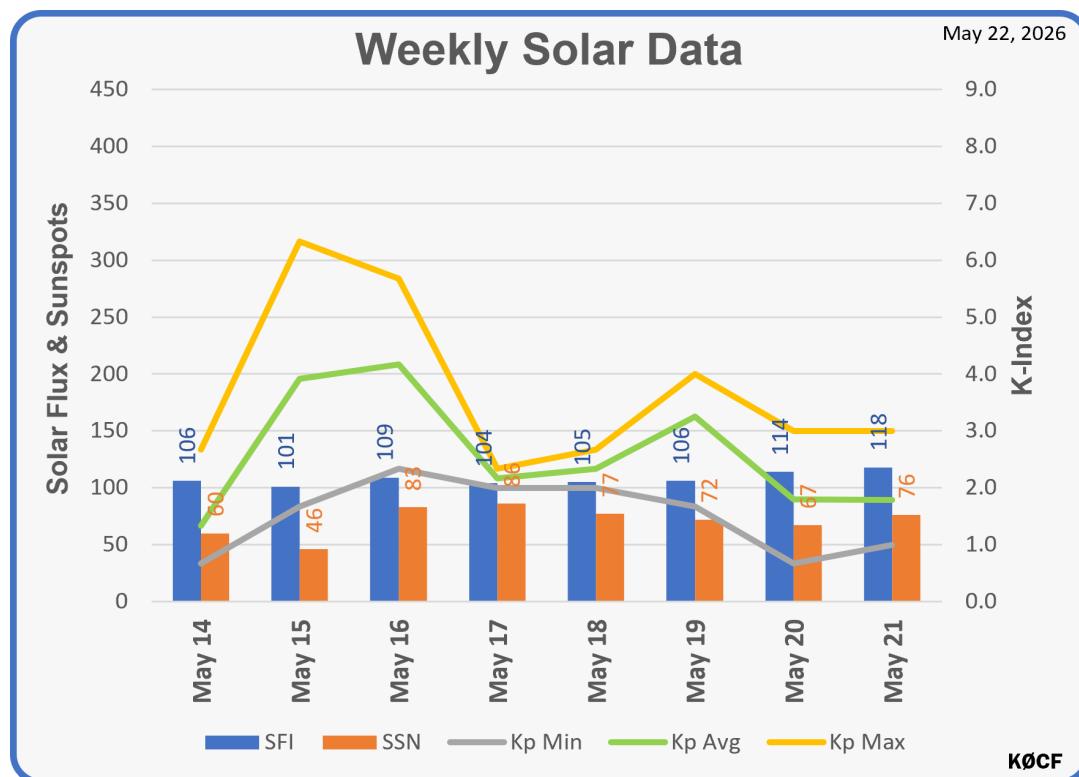
XU, CAMBODIA. The **XU7AMO** team at the National Polytechnic Institute of Cambodia has launched regular weekly operations on the HF bands and the QO-100 satellite. Look for activity every Wednesday at 0500 UTC on 15 meters SSB, and every Friday at 1200 UTC on QO-100 SSB. QSL SSB QSOs via [NØMMA](#); Satellite QSOs only via [JA3GEP](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 20 May 21, 2026] (0522-0612)

ZC4, UK SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS. Dave, G4WXJ, will be back on the air as **ZC4RH** from **May 23rd to 30th**. QRV on HF and 6m on SSB, FT8/4 with 50W and a dipole antenna. QSL via [DK6SP](#), OQRS, LoTW.
-[DXNL # 2511 May 20, 2026] (0522-0529)

ZD8, ASCENSION I. Muttley, ZB2KX will be QRV as **ZD8KX** near the **end of May** (rumors are **25th to 29th**). He plans to be active on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters, primarily on CW, with some SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW, eQSL, or direct to [ZB2KX](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 30, 2026] (0522-0605)

ZL7, CHATHAM IS. Holger, ZL3IO will be active again as **ZL7IO** from Waitangi, Chatham Islands (OC-038) from **May 25th to June 3rd**, including an entry in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 30th-31st). He will operate CW, SSB and digital on 160-10 meters. QSL via LoTW, [ClubLog's OQRS](#), or via [DK7AO](#).
-[425DXN # 1825 April 25, 2026] (0522-0605)

Propagation



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

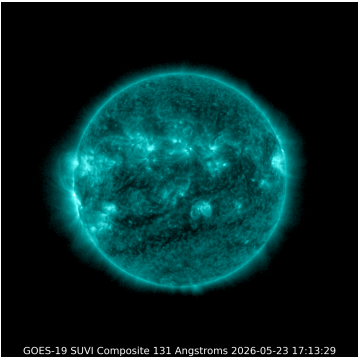
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Thursday, May 14th through Thursday, May 21st.

The average solar flux was 108, down 7 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 118 on Thursday, May 21st, following a low of 101 on May 15th.

The average sunspot count was 72, up 1 from last week, peaking at 86 on Sunday, May 17th after a weekly low of 46 on May 15th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 3.7 with a maximum of 6.3 on Friday, May 15th, indicating a moderate geomagnetic storm. The most recent K-index maximum was 3.0 with generally quiet conditions.

Solar flare activity since May 15th has been quiet with only 1 major flare, which was an M 2.3 event on Friday, May 22nd.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Friday, May 15th through 1413 UTC, May 22nd.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	May 22	1029	M 2.3

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
May 22	25%	5%	120
May 23	25%	5%	120
May 24	25%	5%	125

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on May 18, 2026).

Date	Flux	Kp

Date	Flux	Kp

Date	Flux	Kp

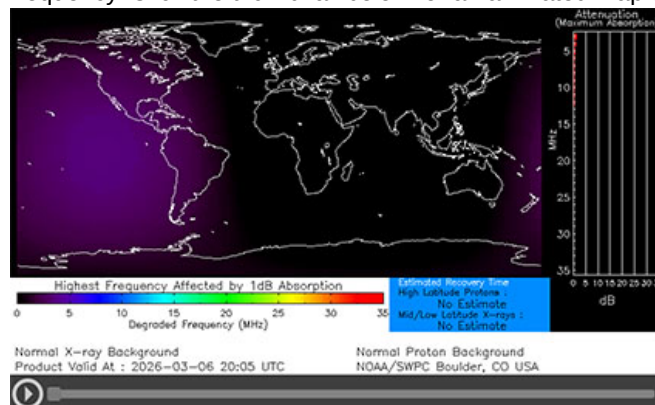
May 22	110	3
May 23	112	2
May 24	112	2
May 25	115	2

May 26	115	2
May 27	115	4
May 28	120	3
May 29	125	3

May 30	130	3
May 31	135	3
Jun 1	130	2
Jun 2	130	2

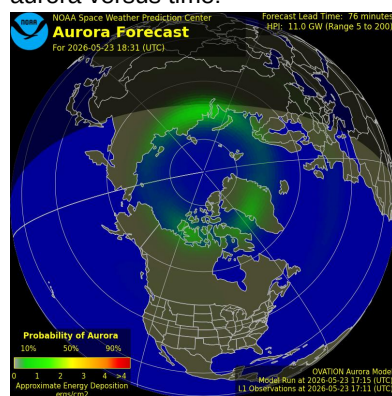
Global D Region Absorption

Conditions in the D-region of the ionosphere have a dramatic effect on HF communications. The D-Region Absorption map combines the effects of solar particles and photons. Yellow to red colors on the map depict increasing signal attenuation, where the bar chart at the right displays attenuation versus frequency. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of D-Region Absorption:



The Aurora Borealis

The aurora is not only beautiful to see but can have a profound impact on HF and VHF radio propagation. For the HF operator, auroras can result in a complete shut-down of propagation. However, on VHF, auroras present interesting DX possibilities. Beam antennas are very desirable and should be pointed north, towards the aurora. Signals are reflected by “back-scatter” and will be distorted with a rough buzz. SSB is the best voice mode to use, but copy can be difficult. CW will have a rough buzzy sound but be perfectly copyable. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of aurora versus time:



Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 336 on August 8, 2024.

Sunspots: 382 on August 10, 2024.

Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

<https://www.spaceweather.com/>

<https://www.solarham.com/>

<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

(Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources.)

Contest Calendar

Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	Rules
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z	
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z	
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	Rules
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	Rules

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

Full Calendar

Contest	Start	End	Web Site

CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	May 30	0000Z	May 31	2400Z	Rules
Atlantic Canada QSO Party	Jun 6	1200Z	Jun 7	0200Z	Rules
Kentucky QSO Party	Jun 6	1300Z	Jun 7	0100Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. Digital Contest	Jun 6	1800Z	Jun 7	2400Z	Rules
ARRL June VHF Contest	Jun 13	1800Z	Jun 15	0300Z	Rules
All Asian DX Contest, CW	Jun 20	0000Z	Jun 21	2400Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Jun 20	1500Z	Jun 21	1500Z	Rules
ARRL Kids Day	Jun 20	1800Z	Jun 20	2359Z	Rules
ARRL Field Day	Jun 27	1800Z	Jun 28	2100Z	Rules
CQ Worldwide VHF SSB/CW Contest	Jul 4	1200Z	Jul 5	1200Z	Rules
CQ Worldwide VHF Digital Contest	Jul 18	1200Z	Jul 19	1200Z	Rules
RSGB IOTA Contest	Jul 25	1200Z	Jul 26	1200Z	Rules
Alabama QSO Party	Jul 25	1500Z	Jul 26	0300Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, CW	Aug 1	1800Z	Aug 2	0600Z	Rules
WAE DX Contest, CW	Aug 8	0000Z	Aug 9	2359Z	Rules
Maryland-DC QSO Party	Aug 8	1400Z	Aug 9	0400Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, SSB	Aug 15	1800Z	Aug 16	0600Z	Rules
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt	Aug 16	1700Z	Aug 16	2100Z	Rules
ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY	Aug 16	1800Z	Aug 16	2359Z	Rules
Hawaii QSO Party	Aug 22	0400Z	Aug 24	0400Z	Rules
YO DX HF Contest	Aug 22	1200Z	Aug 23	1200Z	Rules
Ohio QSO Party	Aug 22	1600Z	Aug 23	0400Z	Rules

(Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#))